

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (currently amended) A water-based cyan ink for ink-jet printing, comprising water insoluble colored polymer particles,

wherein an ink-jet image is formed by jetting the water-based cyan ink on a porous ink-jet recording sheet with an ink-jet printer without being subjected to a post-treatment, and the ink-jet image has the following set of color coordinate values in a  $L^*a^*b^*$  color space when  $L^*$  is in a range of  $65 < L^* < 75$ :

(i)  $-20 < a^* < 20$ ; and

(ii)  $-20 < b^* < 20$ ,

the water insoluble colored polymer particles contain a ~~colorant~~ dye covered with a polymer, ~~provided that when the colorant is a pigment, a weight ratio of the polymer to the pigment is in the range of 0.6 to 10; and when the colorant is a dye, and~~ a weight ratio of the polymer to the dye is in the range of 0.4 to 10.

2. (currently amended) The water-based cyan ink of claim 1 ~~[[,]]~~ wherein the water insoluble colored polymer particles ~~has~~ have a volume average particle diameter of 10 to 200 nm.

3. (currently amended) The water-based cyan ink of claim 1 further ~~comprises~~ comprising a water-soluble polymer, wherein the water insoluble colored polymer particles satisfy Formula (1):

## Formula (1)

$$10 X^{-0.7} < Y < 40 X^{-0.7}$$

wherein X is a volume average particle diameter; and

Y is a polydispersity index which is defined by the following formula:

$$Y = (D_{90} - D_{10}) / D_{50},$$

wherein  $D_{90}$ ,  $D_{50}$ , and  $D_{10}$  are respectively particle diameters at which an integral of a distribution function  $dG$  ( $dG = F(D) \times dD$ ) is equal to 90 volume %, 50 volume % and 10 volume % of the total volume of the water insoluble colored polymer particles, wherein G is a volume of the particle, D is a diameter of the particle and  $F(D)$  is a volume frequency function.

4. (currently amended) The water-based cyan ink of claim 1 further ~~comprises~~ comprising a water-soluble polymer in an amount of not less than 2 times of the weight of the water insoluble colored polymer particles.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (currently amended) An ink set for ink-jet printing containing a water-based cyan ink which comprises water insoluble colored polymer particles,

wherein an ink-jet image is formed by jetting the ink set on a porous ink-jet recording sheet with an ink-jet printer without being subjected to a post-treatment, and the ink-jet image has the following set of color coordinate values in a  $L^*a^*b^*$  color space when  $L^*$  is in a range of  $50 < L^* < 90$ :

(i)  $-20 < a^* < 20$ ; and

(ii)  $-20 < b^* < 20$ ,

the water insoluble colored polymer particles contain a ~~colorant~~ dye covered with a polymer, ~~provided that when the colorant is a pigment, a weight ratio of the polymer to the pigment is in the range of 0.6 to 10; and when the colorant is a dye, and~~ a weight ratio of the polymer to the dye is in the range of 0.4 to 10.

9. (original) An ink set for ink-jet printing containing the water based cyan ink of claim 3.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (new) The water-based cyan ink for ink-jet printing of claim 1 wherein the polymer contained in the water insoluble colored polymer particles has an acetal group, a carbonic acid ester group, a hydroxyl group or an ester group.